

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.56, submitted herewith is a modified Form PTO-1449, including a copy of all of the documents listed therein.

The documents listed in the PTO-1449 have been recently identified in a Notice of Opposition filed against European Patent EP 1 004 956 (Hereinafter the "OPPOSITION"). EP 1 004 956 contains claims that are similar to claims in U.S. Patent 6,034,918, the parent of the instant application. A copy of the OPPOSITION is also submitted herewith.

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner make his consideration of these references formally of record with the next Action.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: January 29, 2001

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